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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

MEZUHARA et al

Serial No.: 09/037,674

Filed: March 9, 1998

Atty. File No.: 2933SE-11-CIP-2

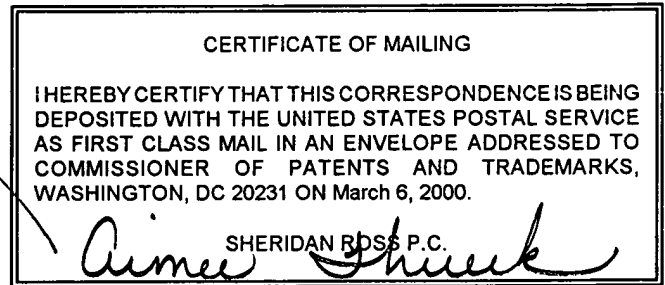
For: "SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES
PASSIVATION FILM"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Group Art Unit: 2814

Examiner: PHAM, L.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT



Dear Sir:

This Response to Restriction Requirement is submitted in reply to the Examiner's Action having a mailing date of February 8, 2000 in connection with the above-identified patent application. It is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper. In the event that fees are due, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

In the Office Action dated February 8, 2000, the Examiner imposed a requirement that either the process (Group I, Claims 16-24) or the device (Group II, Claims 1-15) claimed in the present application be selected for examination.

In response to the Examiner's requirements, Applicants hereby elect the claims in Group II, identified by the Examiner as being directed to a device (*i.e.* Claims 1-15).

Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected claims (Claims 16-24) without the need to file a terminal disclaimer. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if doing so would expedite the resolution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 6, 2000